

## **Kindergarten Accelerated Reader Program**

### **What is Accelerated Reader (AR)?**

AR is a computer software program that is used to promote independent reading at Episcopal Day School in kindergarten through fourth grade. Students may read books or have books read aloud to them. AR allows each student to read/listen to books at his or her level of reading and/or listening ability. Students are tested on their comprehension after each AR book. The scores of each test are combined towards a set point-goal.

### **What is involved in AR testing?**

The student takes a multiple choice comprehension test on an iPad or computer. Your child's teacher will help the student by reading the questions and answers aloud to him/her. Upon completion, the computer scores the test. Points are awarded based on the length of the book, the reading level of the book, and the number of test questions answered correctly.

### **What do I, as a parent, need to do?**

1) Go to [www.edsaugusta.com](http://www.edsaugusta.com), click on the Current Families, then Forms and Information tab, and click on the Suggested Reading/AR link. There you will find the AR Book Finder that allows you to search the available quizzes. The last link on the page is to download the AR form. 2) Read aloud to your child (or have your child read) one of the books from the AR book list the day or evening before a test date of your choosing. It is highly recommended to read the book more than once. 3) You may help prepare your child by asking comprehension questions about the book. 4) Print and fill out an AR Form from the EDS website (there are four per page - just cut or tear on the lines). 5) Send the form to school with your child. You will be notified of the score after each test. 6) Repeat these steps until your child has earned at least a combined score of 5 points; however, students are encouraged to continue past their five-point-goal.

### **What are the test days?**

When kindergarten AR begins in November, your child may take a test any day of the week. No more than one test per day is recommended.

**How do I select/obtain the AR books?** Most kindergarten children will be comfortable with “.5-point value” (not “book level”) books at this time. Most of the books that the children bring home from their weekly EDS library class are also suitable AR books. You are welcome to check out an AR book for your child from the EDS Library during its hours of 8:00 to 3:45, Monday through Friday. AR books are also available at the public library. The public library will allow you to request AR books from other libraries in the Pines system. Most books published in recent years will have a corresponding test, but the public libraries do not label AR book levels or point values. AR books in the EDS library are labeled.

**Who do I contact with questions?**

Contact Karen Dye ([kdye@edsaugusta.com](mailto:kdye@edsaugusta.com)) with questions about the program. Contact Amanda Chambers ([achambers@edsaugusta.com](mailto:achambers@edsaugusta.com)) with downloading/website issues.